

House Resolution 2037

By: Representative Marin of the 96th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the United States Department of Education to ensure Hispanic students retain access
2 to financial support for career training and privately funded institutions; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, private sector colleges comprise 2,750 of the 6,750 postsecondary institutions
5 across the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, two- and four-year private sector colleges have a higher percentage of minority
7 students than do other sectors; and

8 WHEREAS, over 50 percent of students attending career colleges are minority students,
9 compared to approximately 34 percent at public and 32 percent at private, not-for-profit
10 four-year institutions, while 14.3 percent of all current private sector college students are
11 Hispanic; and

12 WHEREAS, private sector institutions offer a broad range of academic programs that
13 concentrate in the creative and applied arts, behavioral sciences, education, health sciences,
14 and business fields and award associate's through doctoral degrees as well as offer
15 non-degree programs; and

16 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Education is considering a Gainful
17 Employment rule that may limit education and economic opportunities for hundreds of
18 thousands of Americans by making entire programs ineligible for Title IV financial aid if
19 they fail to meet a single debt service-to-income ratio test; and

20 WHEREAS, a Gainful Employment rule may disproportionately harm low-income and
21 minority populations by discriminating against students who must borrow their college
22 tuition and will result in limiting access to higher education for thousands of students; and

23 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Education's Gainful Employment rule threatens
24 to greatly diminish the number of highly-qualified graduates who are prepared to enter the
25 workforce with the skills they need to begin their careers and become invaluable resources
26 to their employers; and

27 WHEREAS, if we are to meet the President's goal of this nation once again having the
28 highest proportion of college graduates in the world by 2020, then improving the education
29 level, career readiness, and job skills of American workers is critical.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
31 the members of this body urge the United States Department of Education to support the goal
32 of increasing the number of college graduates among American students and to promulgate
33 regulations that promote fair and equal access to higher education.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of Education is urged to
35 carefully study the possible impact the debt service-to-income ratio of the proposed Gainful
36 Employment rule will have upon Hispanic, poor, and other minority students before
37 implementing the rule.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
39 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the United States
40 Department of Education.